

INE-0001C

REMARKS

The Specification was objected to as failing to provide antecedent basis for the claimed "groove." However, it is noted that FIGURE 10E, and the corresponding description of tapered region 200 at page 16, line 19 provides such antecedent basis. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The claims have been amended to clarify the relationship of the maximum diameter of the tip (at a point proximal to the distal end of the tip) and the reduced diameter of the tip proximal to that maximum diameter. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to clarify how the configuration of the needle tip works with the device described by the Specification. Reference is made to the Specification at page 16, lines 19-29. Such description details how a configuration covered by amended claim 1 permits a ferrule to be "held better onto the tip when captured by the needle."


None of the cited prior art patents (U.S. Patent No. 3,612,050 to Sheridan; U.S. Patent No. 3,929,123 to Jamshidi; U.S. Patent No. 4,667,684 to Leigh; and U.S. Patent No. 5,718,714 to Livneh) teach or suggest such a configuration. Accordingly, reconsideration of and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any charges with respect to the presently submitted response or otherwise, please charge them to deposit account 06-1130, maintained by the Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully Submitted,

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